APPLICANTS:

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please add or amend the claims to read as follows, and cancel without prejudice or disclaimer to resubmission in a divisional or continuation application claims indicated as cancelled:

1-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) A method of transferring telecommunication transmissions comprising:

using a PCI bus connector to establish a connection between a rear I/O card and a second front card or rear card, upon receiving a failure indication associated with a first front card connected via a through connection to said rear card when no failure indication is received.

30. (Currently Amended) A method of transferring telecommunication transmissions comprising:

connecting a rear I/O card to a set of backplane traces associated with a PCI bus of said backplane upon receiving a failure indication associated with a front card connected via a through connection to said rear card when no failure indication is received.

31. (Currently Amended) A method of transferring telecommunication transmissions comprising:

allocating at least a portion of a PCI bus for communications between a rear card and a backup front or rear card upon receiving a failure indication associated with a front card connected via a through connection to said rear card when no failure indication is received.

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32. (Currently Amended) A rear card of a device for transferring telecommunication transmissions, comprising:

an isolation relay adapted to route incoming signals from said rear card to a backup front or rear card through at least a portion of a PCI bus upon receiving a failure indication associated with a backup card currently connected via a through connection to said rear card when no failure indication is received.

33. (Currently Amended) A device for transferring telecommunication transmissions, comprising:

a control circuit, which upon receiving a indication signal associated with a first front card currently connected via a through connection to a rear card when no failure indication is received, is adapted to redirect communications from said rear card to a second front card or a second rear card over at least a portion PCI bus.

34. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 33, wherein said indication is received over at least a portion of said PCI bus.